

NNNNVV ES0808RA499

RR RUEBBA

DE RUEHMD #1686 2200757

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

R 070757Z AUG 80

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7971

INFO RUEBBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1093

RUESLM/AMEMBASSY LIMA 0466

RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC

BT

MADRID 11686

USICA FOR EU AND AR

E.C. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, SHUM, SP, AR, PE

SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORTING ON DEATH OF ARGENTINE EXILE
KIDNAPPED IN LIMA

REF: MADRID 11609

1. (U) FOR ADDRESSEES INFORMATION, IN CASE STORY HAS NOT RECEIVED CIRCULATION, MADRID DAILY "EL PAIS" ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ON THE DEATH IN MADRID OF NOEMI ESTHER GIANOTTI DE MOLFINO, AN ARGENTINE CITIZEN KIDNAPPED IN LIMA. THE STORY ORIGINATED WITH INTERPRESS (IPS).

2. (U) THE STORY SAYS THAT ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR IN MADRID JORGE WASHINGTON FERREIRA DESCRIBED GIANOTTI DE MOLFINO AS ONE OF THE "MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO". THE ARTICLE ALLEGES THAT AMBASSADOR FERREIRA IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE CLAIMED THAT THE APPEARANCE OF THE BODY IN MADRID "IS THE MOST OBVIOUS EVIDENCE OF THE FALSENESS OF THE CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT PERUVIAN AND ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES," IMPLYING THAT THE INCIDENT WAS CARRIED OUT BY OTHERS TO DISCREDIT ARGENTINA.

3. (U) THE ARGENTINE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (CADHU) SAID THAT THE CASE DEMONSTRATES THE "TERRORISM OF THE ARGENTINE STATE HAS NO BORDERS".

4. (U) IN SUMMARY, THE STORY PRESENTED IS THAT GIANOTTI DE MOLFINO AND FOUR OTHER PEOPLE WERE KIDNAPPED IN LIMA, WHERE THEY WERE IN EXILE, BY ARGENTINE MILITARY FORCES, AIDED BY PERUVIAN AUTHORITIES. THE STORY SAYS THAT GIANOTTI MANAGED TO NOTIFY LEGISLATORS THAT SOMETHING WAS AFOOT AND ONE OF THE OTHER FOUR MANAGED TO ESCAPE BUT WAS THEN PICKED UP BY PERUVIAN POLICE AND TURNED OVER TO THE PERUVIAN SECURITY SERVICES. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER GIANOTTI WAS KIDNAPPED AND DISAPPEARED PROMPTLY OR WHETHER SHE TOO WAS PICKED UP BY THE POLICE AND

TO	ACT	INF	TO	ACT	INF
AMB		/	ADM		
DCM		/	SY		
POL	3		NGOIC		
ECOM		/	PER		
POL/R		/	GSO		
CONS		/	B&F		
ICA		/	CPD		
LABOR			TCU		
SCI		/	DEA		
DAO		/	FAS		/
MILGP			CHRON		/
FCS			RF		/

ARGENTINA PROJECT (2200000000)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Exemptions: () In Part () In Full () Deny
() Release () Exempt () Deny
Declassify: () In Part () In Full () Deny
Date: 8/4/80
Reason: 3/52

BA-9
4-12-76

REPORTED TO BOLIVIA WHERE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES TOOK
HER INTO CUSTODY.

UNCLASSIFIED

5. (U) IN EITHER CASE, GIANOTTI DISAPPEARED AND
NOTHING MORE WAS KNOWN UNTIL AN UNIDENTIFIED BODY TURNED
UP IN MADRID ON JULY 24. ALLEGEDLY TWO MADRID PAPERS
WERE GIVEN THE NAME OF THE DEAD WOMAN IN ANONYMOUS PHONE
CALLS BEFORE THE POLICE COULD IDENTIFY HER.

6. (U) "EL PAIS" RETURNED TO THE THEME ON AUGUST 6
WITH AN EDITORIAL. CALLING NEITHER THE EMBASSY OF
ARGENTINA NOR THE CADHU VERSION OF THE WOMAN'S DEATH
COMPLETELY CONVINCING, THE PAPER CALLED FOR A COMPLETE
AND IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION BY THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES
OF HOW THE WOMAN ENTERED SPAIN AND OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES
SURROUNDING HER DEATH. "IF THE EMBASSY VERSION IS
COMPLETELY CORRECT (THAT THE KILLING WAS DONE BY OTHERS
TO DISCREDIT THE ARGENTINE REGIME) THEN THE POLICE AND
JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES SHOULD RATIFY IT. AND IF SPANISH
TERRITORY HAS BEEN USED AS THE SETTING FOR CRIMINAL
ACTIVITY BY A PARALLEL FOREIGN SERVICE, IN THE STYLE
OF THE MISDEEDS OF THE CHILEAN DINA IN EUROPE, LATIN
AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES, THE PROSECUTION OF THESE
CRIMINALS ON OUR SOIL AND THE CLARIFICATION OF THEIR
LINKS OVERSEAS WOULD BE NECESSARY."

7. (U) "EL PAIS" ALSO PLEADS THAT GIANOTTI DE MOLFIND
DESERVES SOME RESPECT AND THAT, WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF
THE INVESTIGATION, HER DEATH SHOULD CAUSE PEOPLE TO HONOR
THE FIGHT OF THE ARGENTINE MOTHERS.

3. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT "EL PAIS" ON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, RAN A PAID AD SPONSORED BY CADHU ON
THE GIANOTTI DE MOLFIND CASE. (COMMENT: IT IS UNUSUAL
THAT "EL PAIS" WOULD HAVE REQUIRED SUCH A GROUP TO PAY.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE NORMAL, GIVEN THE PAPER'S LIBERAL
LEFTIST IDEOLOGICAL BENT, FOR THEM TO DO A FURTHER NEWS
STORY. END COMMENT.)

9. (U) ORIGINALS OF STORY, EDITORIAL AND AD BEING
POUCHED TO GERALD WHITMAN, ARA/SC. TOOMAN
BT
#1686

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